

CITY OF KOSCIUSKO

OCT 5

Mayor
Jimmy W. Cockroft

231054

September 28, 2011

Aldermen
Henry Daniel
Robert Ellis
Tim Kyle
Marvin "Pop" Lawrence
John Sullivan

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Grenada Railroad LLC- Abandonment of railroad line between Milepost 622.5 and Milepost 703.8., In Mississippi- STB Docket AB-1087.X

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing in opposition to the application filed by Grenada Railway LLC (GRYR) for abandonment of the railroad line between Milepost 622.5 near Grenada, Mississippi and Milepost 703.8 near Canton, Mississippi a distance of 81.3 miles in Grenada, Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo and Madison Counties in Mississippi.

Our community is also concerned for the connection to our short line railroad that intersects the GRYR at milepost 673.4. This short line, the Kosciusko Southwestern Railway (KSRY), is the only access our City of Kosciusko and Attala County Mississippi have to the national rail system. We currently do not have a four-lane highway that connects our community to any other four-lane or our interstate system and if the railroad is abandoned it further decimates our potential for industrial development in this area.

Our line is currently owned by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. The abandonment notice, on page 7, indicates that GRYR wanted to purchase this rail line from MDOT. Thanks to the help of one of our state representatives, Mary Ann Stevens, from West, Mississippi this was put off for the time being. We have since learned that the purpose of this purchase was nothing other than to take up the railroad and sell it off as scrap. It is a shame that this is being done not only in our community but our state as well.

Please also understand that the loss of this rail line has had an immediate effect on existing businesses, but the abandonment and allowing GRYR to remove the rail will put this region of Mississippi at a huge disadvantage when competing for economic development projects and overall job creation. This rail line serves the heart of Mississippi and connects most of central Mississippi to the national shipping hub in Memphis, Tennessee.

We urge you to consider the current and future economic health of our communities as you analyze Grenada Railways abandonment application.

Sincerely,


Jimmy W. Cockroft, Mayor
City of Kosciusko

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October 5, 2011

Surface Transportation Board
FAXIMILE (202) 245-0464

RE: AB1087X

Dear Mrs. Hardy,

I, Hart Pettit, City Clerk of the City of Kosciusko, on October 5, 2011, served all parties of record.

Sincerely



Hart Pettit
City Clerk